

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 007086

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E.O. 11652: NA DECON 12/31/75

TAGS: UNRWA, US

SUBJECT: US CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA

1. LEGISLATIVE SITUATION ON USG FY 1975 CONTRIBUTIONS TO
UNRWA:

A. CONTINUING RESOLUTION (CR). LATE IN SENATE DEBATE ON
CR APPROPRIATION, SENATOR INOUYE INTRODUCED AMENDMENT PRO-
VIDING ADDITIONAL DOLS 10 MILLION FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES.
SINCE AUTHORIZATION PORTION CR ALREADY COMPLETED, INOUYE
SUGGESTED MONEY BE DISBURSED UNDER AUTHORITY IN MIGRATION
AND REFUGEE ACT OF 1952. CR IS NOW LAW AND THIS MONEY IS
AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, UNDER CR REGULAR
USG FY 1975 CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA MUST BE SAME AMOUNT AND
KIND AS IN FY 1974; INCLUDING DOLS 8.9 MILLION IN EXTREMELY
SCARCE COMMODITIES. ACCORDINGLY, DOLS 10 MILLION WILL PRO-
VIDE ONLY SMALL ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF CASH UNTIL PASSAGE OF
FY 1975 FAA APPROPRIATION, INCLUDING REQUEST FOR REGULAR

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UNRWA CONTRIBUTION ENTIRELY IN CASH.

B. FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION. AUTHORIZATION PORTION
FOREIGN AID LEGISLATION, NOW COMPLETED, CONTAINS
AUTHORIZATION TO THE PRESIDENT TO EARMARK FOR UNRWA DOLS 6
MILLION FROM SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FUND IF HE DETERMINES THAT
A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES ARE CONTRIBUTING THEIR FAIR
SHARE. AUTHORIZATION ALSO CONTAINS REGULAR CONTRIBUTION OF
DOLS 23.2 MILLION ENTIRELY IN CASH UNDER, AS USUAL,
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND
PROGRAMS SECTION OF BILL.

2. THERE IS THUS POSSIBILITY THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO
MAKE REGULAR CONTRIBUTION OF DOLS 23.2 MILLION, AND TOTAL
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF DOLS 16 MILLION, TO UNRWA IN FY
RPT FY 1975. HOWEVER, IN DISCUSSING THIS WITH UNRWA,
EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE SURE AGENCY, PARTICULARLY MCILHENNEY
(WHO WILL ALREADY HAVE BEEN BRIEFED ON THIS HERE) AND
RENNIE, CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT BOTH THE DOLS 6 MILLION
AND THE REGULAR CONTRIBUTION ARE SUBJECT TO THE
APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

3. ON BASIS OF FOREGOING, AND OUR CONDITIONAL PLEDGE FOR
CY RPT CY 1975, TOTAL OF USG CONTRIBUTIONS MIGHT RPT
MIGHT BE DOLS 40.94 MILLION IN THAT YEAR. WE EMPHASIZE,
HOWEVER, THAT THIS SUM IS CONTINGENT NOT ONLY ON UN-
CERTAINTIES PARA 2 ABOVE, BUT ALSO ON CONGRESSIONAL
ACTION ON FY RPT FY 1976 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION.

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